

Department of Linguistics
University of Calgary
Term/Year: Spring 2011

LING 309: LANGUAGE AND POWER

Days and Time: Tuesday/Thursday 14:00-16:45

Room: SA 106

Instructor: Dr. Carlos de Cuba

Office: SS 832

Telephone: 403-220-7316 (e-mail better)

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Office Hours: Wed. 11-12 and by appointment

T.A.: Susan Jackson

Office: SS 817

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E-mail: sejackso@ucalgary.ca

Office Hours: TBA

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course we will examine the role of language in power relationships. Language functions to maintain and change power relations in society - we will explore the nature of the linguistic resources used to create, enhance and justify positions of dominance and subordination and to influence and persuade populations. Examples will be drawn from the discourse of gender, social and ethnic relations, government and business. Topics will include language and politics, language and the law, language and medicine, language and ethnicity, language and gender, and how language relates to social control, authority, social identity, change, and individual rights.

Note: In this class we may at times discuss examples of racist, sexist and other uses of language which may be offensive to some. If you find it uncomfortable to have such language used/discussed in your presence, you should not continue in this course.

REQUIRED TEXTS (Additional readings will be made available on Blackboard)

- 1) Mooney, Peccei, LaBelle, et al. 2011. *Language, Society and Power: An Introduction (3rd Edition)*. Routledge.
- 2) Rosina Lippi-Green. 1997. *English with an Accent*. Routledge.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance: I will not take formal attendance, but I expect everyone to attend class and show up on time unless you have a good excuse. Attendance affects your Class Participation grade (see below). **You are responsible for any material you miss if you miss class, so please do not ask me or the T.A. to recreate lessons you have missed during office hours.**

Class Participation: This portion of the grade is based on class attendance, preparation and participation. Toward the end of the semester, I'll ask you to assign yourself a participation grade. We'll talk more about this when the time comes, but the general criteria I'd like for you to have in mind are: (1) Did you show up for class? (both mentally & physically) (2) How prepared were you for each class? Did you do the readings in preparation for class? (3) Did you contribute to class/group discussions? I don't want to penalize people who are too hard on themselves or reward people who are too easy in that regard, so I reserve the right to adjust these grades (e.g., if you don't ever show up but give yourself full credit), but will only do so sparingly. Basically, you're giving yourself 10% of your grade on the honor system.

Assignments: There will be 5 homework assignments due throughout the semester (see course schedule below for due dates). **Late assignments will not be accepted for credit.**

Exams: There will be a midterm and a final. The format will be short answer and essay questions. **No make-up exams will be allowed without an excellent, well documented excuse (i.e. a doctor's note).**

EVALUATION

Class Participation	10%
Assignments	25%
Midterm	30%
Final	35%

GRADING SCHEDULE

A+ = 97-100 %	B+ = 85-88%	C+ = 74-77%	D+ = 62-66%
A = 92-96 %	B = 81-84%	C = 70-73%	D = 58-61%
A- = 89-91 %	B- = 78-80%	C- = 67-69%	F = 0-57%

BLACKBOARD

We will be using the Blackboard facility in this class. Announcements, homework, and other important information will be posted on the class site. Be sure to check it regularly. You can access class information on-line at < <https://blackboard.ucalgary.ca> > Some announcements may be distributed via email. Make sure that the correct address is listed in Blackboard, and be sure to check your email regularly.

PRELIMINARY COURSE SCHEDULE (subject to revision as needed)

Date	Topic	Readings
May 12	Introduction, Course Overview Linguistics and Language (Assignment 1 assigned, due May 17)	LS&P Ch. 1 Lippi-Green Ch. 1
May 17	Language Thought & Representation	LS&P Ch. 2
May 19	Linguistics, Language and Ideology Language and Politics (Assignment 2 assigned, due May 24)	Lippi-Green Ch. 2-3 LS&P Ch. 3 Lippi-Green Ch. 4
May 24	Language and Education	LS&P Ch. 10
May 26	Language Standardization Language and the Media (Assignment 3 assigned, due May 31)	Lippi-Green Ch. 6 LS&P Ch. 4 Lippi-Green Ch. 7
May 31	Language and the Law	Lippi-Green Ch. 8
June 2	Language and Popular Culture MIDTERM BREAK – NO CLASSES	Lippi-Green Ch. 5
June 7	MIDTERM EXAM	
June 9	Language and Advertising Language and Ethnicity African American English (Assignment 4 assigned, due June 14)	Reading TBA LS&P Ch. 6 Lippi-Green Ch. 9
June 14	Language and Social Class	LS&P Ch. 8
June 16	Southern American English Language Policy English Only Movement (Assignment 5 assigned, due June 21)	Lippi-Green Ch. 10 Reading TBA
June 21	Language and Gender	LS&P Ch. 5
June 23	Language and Medicine Language Authorities	Reading TBA
FINAL EXAM as scheduled by registrar		

GENERAL COURSE/UNIVERSITY INFORMATION FOR ALL STUDENTS

LINGUISTICS STUDENT ADVISING

For any questions regarding the linguistics major or minor, the organization of your program, or the selection of courses, you can see the linguistics under/graduate advisor/coordinator:

Dr. Robert Murray	SS 824	403-220-8109	ling.undergrad@ucalgary.ca
Dr. Steve Winters	SS 814	403-220-7230	ling.undergrad@ucalgary.ca
Dr. Suzanne Curtin	SS 842	403-220-3927	linggrad@ucalgary.ca

FACULTY of ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING and STUDENT INFORMATION

For questions about interdisciplinary programs, to see an Associate Dean, to inquire about COOP, or for general information, please visit the new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre located in Social Science, Room 110. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>.

For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit us at the 4th Floor of MacEwan Student Centre.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit us in the MacKimmie Library Block.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY ACT (FOIP)

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act was enacted by the Alberta Legislature on June 1, 1994. The Act is intended first of all to allow any person the right of access to the records in the custody and under the control of a public body although this right is subject to limited and specific exceptions. The Act also includes a strong right to privacy component, allowing individuals to control the manner in which a public body collects personal information, to control the use that a public body may make of the information, and to control the disclosure of that information by a public body. It also allows individuals the right of access to personal information about themselves held by a public body and the right to request corrections to that information.

For more information on FOIP, please visit: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>
Or contact Jo-Anne Munn Gafuik at (403) 220-3602 or by email: munngefufu@ucalgary.ca

PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:

1. the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),
2. parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
3. the whole work (e.g. an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
4. a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Students are encouraged to work together in preparing homework assignments. However, unless noted otherwise in writing, students must write up their own answers for submission of the assignment. Failure to do so constitutes plagiarism.

Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. Possible penalties for plagiarism include; failing the assignment, failing the course, disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of plagiarism is also guilty of academic misconduct.

For more information on academic misconduct and related UofC regulations please consult the Student Misconduct web pages in the on-line University Calendar. These can be found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

EMERGENCY EVACUATION / ASSEMBLY POINTS

The University of Calgary is committed to creating a safe and healthy living and learning environment. The health and safety of our employees, students and the general public are the highest priority of the University of Calgary's Emergency Management Program. During times of emergency, Assembly Points have been identified across campus. These areas have been selected as they are large enough to hold a significant number of people and will provide an evacuated population access to washroom facilities and protection from the elements.

Assembly points are also designed to establish a location for information updates:

- from the emergency responders to the evacuees; and
- from the evacuated population to the emergency responders.

Please familiarize yourself with the Emergency Assembly Points listed here:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

And the Emergency Instructions listed here: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/node/28>

SAFE WALK INFORMATION

Twenty four hours a day and seven days a week Safewalk volunteers walk people safely to their destination on campus. This service is free and available to students, staff and campus visitors.

Requesting Safewalk volunteers to walk with you is easy!

- Call 403-220-5333 (24 hours a day/seven days a week, 365 days a year)
- Use the Help Phones (they are not just for emergencies)
- Approach an on-duty Safewalker and request a walk

For more information call the Safewalk office at 403-220-4750 or email safewalk@ucalgary.ca.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION

The Students' Union in partnership with the University of Calgary and the Graduate Students' Association (GSA) offers students a key advocacy resource to assist in addressing concerns and issues they encounter at the university with the Office of the Student Ombuds.

Students in undergraduate programs, please contact the Student's Union:

<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/home/contact.html>

Students in graduate programs, please contact the GSA: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>

Student Ombudsman: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>